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Bedbugs Plague Central Brooklyn

By Street Hype Reporters

Central Brooklyn has been identified as the worst hot spot for bedbug infestation in New York City. According to data from the City Health Department the number of complaints in a cluster of six community boards in Brooklyn doubled from 566 to 1,132 in just one year.

There were 10,000 complaints to the city last year - one-third higher than the year before. "There are lots and lots of people who are having a devastating experience with bedbugs," said Renee Corea, who helped start the coalition New York vs. Bed Bugs after being bitten.

New Yorkers called 311 with 9,213 bedbug complaints in the last fiscal year, up 33.7% from the year before. That probably understates the problem, Corea said, because uncounted numbers of New Yorkers call exterminators instead of phoning 311.

The worst hot spots are in central Brooklyn, where the number of complaints doubled to 1,132 in just one year.

Significant increases in infestations were also reported in northern and eastern Bronx, in midtown Manhattan, in the Rockaways and a section of east-

ern Queens, and on the North Shore of Staten Island.

The New York City Council's Committee on Consumer Affairs, chaired by Deputy Majority Leader Leroy Comrie held a joint hearing with the Committees on Health and Sanitation at City Hall on February 24 to discuss the City's growing number of bed bug infestations.

The hearing centered around three bills introduced by Council Member Gale Brewer that seek to improve the City's administrative and technical mechanisms for increasing consumer awareness in choosing informed exterminating services.

Bed bugs are small, wingless insects that are the size of a poppy seed at birth and grow to approximately one-quarter inch in adulthood. They can range from a white or tan color to a



deep orange or brown, and can hatch between one and two eggs per day, accounting for hundreds over a lifetime.

Bed bugs feed on the blood of warm-blooded animals, generally when the animal is asleep.

When a bed bug eats, it first releases saliva into the skin, so the host does not feel the contact.

Bed bugs can be found worldwide and have recently experienced resurgence in North America, Europe and Australia.

Some attribute the increase in their population in the United States to restrictions on DDT, a chemical formerly used to eradicate bed bugs, that is now being phased out in the U.S. due to concerns of human toxicity.



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EDITORIAL

Good sanitation and hygiene could help stop the bugs!

An unprecedented epidemic of blood sucking bed bugs has emerged in New York City, according to reports from the city's housing officials.

The number of infestations has increased more than tenfold in the last three years and no neighborhood, no matter how up-market, is immune.

The nocturnal insects once associated with dog-houses and slums are now causing havoc in some of New York's most exclusive districts.

A pest control operator told the

Daily News that during the past six months he has been treating maternity wards, five-star hotels, movie theaters, taxi garages, investment banks, private schools and law firms for bed bugs.

The bugs have been with us for a long time, however they are spreading to more areas. There were some 537 reported cases to the housing department in 2004, and 82 landlords were given court summonses. Up to last June that number soared to 6,889 complaints and 2,008 summonses.

Bed bugs emerge from wood-

work at night to feed on the blood of mammals. When they bite people they leave large, itchy welts on the skin that can cause considerable discomfort. They can be brought into houses on clothing or luggage.

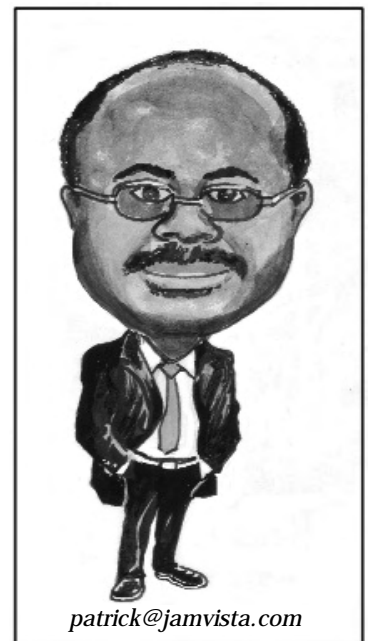
We are very concerned that the increased infestations are not just confined to dog-houses and slums, but in buildings that are well-kept and managed.

One expert is attributing the infestation to the reconditioning of old and used beds and mattresses as well as the low-toxicity pesticides being used by pest control operators.

The pesticide DDT virtually wiped out bed bugs in the USA in the 1940s and 1950s, but after it was banned infestations increased again.

Bed bugs are very prolific. The city should fast-track the implementation of new laws to monitor and restrict the refurbishing used mattresses. Citizens should have access to environmentally friendly, but effective pesticides to control the pest. We must educate the public on measures to control the bugs.

People should practice good overall sanitation and personal hygiene to stop the bugs.



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PEOPLE ARE TALKING !



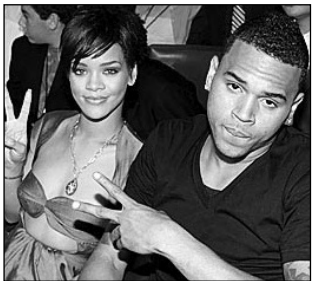
By
**JOHNNIE
NEWKIRK**

What a 'Fool' Rihanna be!

Listen, I like Rihanna. I think she is talented, beautiful and a very lovely, young lady. However, to take someone back that by your own and his admission, brutally assaulted you is foolish.

Yes, you may still love him. Yes, he most likely said that he is sorry and won't do it again. Yes, you want to believe him, even though this was probably not the first time.

And yes, you don't want to be seen as the woman who ruined his life, or the woman responsible for sending another black young man to jail. I got it.



Rihanna and Chris

But here is the problem: How do you know that he is really and sincerely, sorry? How do you know that this is just not a ploy to keep his behind out of jail? How do you know that he won't assault you, yet again? How do you know that once he is certain that he will not go to jail, and that most of the public will forgive this serious indiscretion on his part that he will not drop you like a "hot" potato? And how will he ever respect you if you don't even respect yourself? Rihanna, users, abusers and losers never change.

If I had children, especially daughters, I would encourage them not to financially support either of you. This means not buying any of your music or concert tickets. I will not condone this behavior by putting money in the pockets of either one of you. Believe me,

Rihanna, I am saying this out of love. The best thing you can do for Chris Brown is to go on with your life without him, and pray that he gets the help he desperately needs. And let the chips fall where they may, and put the situation in God's hand.

• Johnnie Newkirk is president of New West Music & Publishing Inc. 1-866-603-6874
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No to Republicans' 'no hope' rhetoric!

The rhetoric between the Republicans and the Democrats has reached a crescendo that is almost deafening.

It is ideology versus common sense. According to Rush Limbaugh, de facto leader of the Republican Party, he wants the president to fail. He has spewed that incendiary rhetoric on numerous occasions and has not to date been admonished in any serious way by his party.

That rhetoric, although spoken out of ignorance gives voice to cable chatter and uninformed pundits. Mr. Buchanan, one of the latter, agreed during one of the morning shows, with Mr. Limbaugh. He reiterated the verbiage on the grounds of ideology – all at a time when the president, in my opinion, is interjecting a positive message entrenched in practicality to bring the country out of its economic morass.

Failure, at this juncture is not an option, and so the pundits, the citizens and the non-political participants alike should hope for the country's economic climate to again be on the upswing. As well they should hope that the president succeeds in his endeavors because as the president goes so does the



By
Michael Russell
MRus839303@aol.com

country. How then can the pundits, irrespective of political philosophy, or party affiliation, blanket our airways with negative ideology driven messages that more times than not, are counter productive to our economic growth?

Be cognizant of the fact that it was the economy that made us the policing body in the world.

It was our economy that brought many immigrants and forefathers to the shores of the United States.

It was the economy that gave people without hope a chance to dream. It has to be the economy and the strengthening of all its parts that will once again allow America to regain its standing in the world and restore our confidence in ourselves and our governing body.

Incendiary rhetoric is becoming deafening and has allowed for many of the pundits to be employed. But how about those who are not employed and cannot speak to when or where they will find employment? Do they deserve to be bombarded with the "no hope" rhetoric? A resounding "No" would suffice as an answer.

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NEWS



Brent Denoon Photo:

New York City Council Deputy Majority Leader Leroy Comrie (center) announced recently that he has formally cancelled his office's subscription to the New York Post, in response to the racist cartoon published on February 18, which depicted police officers killing a chimpanzee and likening it to President Obama. Here, Council Member Comrie joins Rev. Al Sharpton, members of the NAACP and his Council colleagues at a recent City Hall demonstration against the Post.

Comrie Cancels Subscription to NY Post

Urges Community to Continue Boycott

New York City Council Deputy Majority Leader Leroy Comrie (D-27th District) announced recently that he had formally cancelled his office's subscription to the New York Post, in response to the racist cartoon published on February 18, which depicted police officers killing a chimpanzee and likening it to President Obama.

"While the apology made by New York Post chairman Rupert Murdoch was welcome, I believe that the boycott should continue," stated Council Member Comrie. "I have joined the NAACP and the National Action Network in their call for the Federal Communications Commission to review federal policies which allow the Post's parent company,

News Corp., to own multiple media outlets in the same market.

"I believe it's dangerous for one entity to have so much control over the dissemination of news, especially when that entity can callously engage and initially defend such racist images in its publications. NewsCorp not only controls a major daily publication in our City, but also two local television stations and the Community Newspaper Group, which consists of numerous neighborhood newspapers across the city."

Council Member Comrie has mailed correspondence to hundreds of his constituents in Southeast Queens to join him in the boycott and send a message to News Corp by exercising their economic clout and not buy the New York Post. Additionally, he has called on the publication to divulge the number of minorities working in its newsroom.

"I continue to believe it's important for newspapers to make a commitment to ensure that their newsrooms reflect the diversity of the City and nation," continued Council Member Comrie. "The benefit of having diversity not only in the newsroom, but also at the publication's supervisory level could have made all the difference in the world, with respect to this cartoon. The decision by the New York Post to run this despicable cartoon would indicate that this publication has room for growth in this area. Certainly, if NewsCorp can own great diverse local publications such as *Caribbean Life*, *Bronx Times* and *Times-Ledger*, they don't have to look far to bring qualified editors and reporters of color into the newsroom of the New York Post."

The American Society of Newspaper Editors (ASNE), the main organization of daily newspaper editors, conducts an annual national census of daily newspapers that examines the number of minorities (Asians, Blacks, Hispanics and Native Americans) in the newsroom.

The 2008 census reveals that the 14.7% of the staff of the New York Daily News are people of color. The New York Times (17.3%), Newsday (25.1%), AM New York (18.8%) and the Wall Street Journal (20.4%) each responded to the survey. The New York Post failed to do so.

Gunshot Detection System for Mount Vernon and Yonkers

Yonkers Mayor Phil Amicone and Westchester County officials recently announced a high-tech collaboration to curb gun violence by bringing state-of-the-art gunshot detection technology to the cities of Yonkers and Mt. Vernon.

Yonkers Mayor Amicone, Mount Vernon Mayor Clinton Young, Yonkers Police Commissioner Edmund Hartnett, Mount Vernon Police Commissioner David Chong, joined County Executive Andy Spano and county legislators at a press conference recently to discuss the county's plans to purchase and install a sophisticated network of sensors that will detect gunfire and pinpoint its precise location for police.

The sensors inform police within seconds after gunshots sound, enabling officers to respond to the scene immediately, even before they receive a 911 call.

Mayor Amicone said, "Violent crime rates in Yonkers have continued to drop, not only because of the quality community police work being done by our officers, but also because we've made a commitment to outfit them with the equipment and technology they need to do the job."

Gunshot detection will be another important tool in law enforcement's arsenal that will enable police to respond quickly and accurately.

Entryway Collapses Inside Bronx Building

Residents of a Bronx apartment building say poor maintenance led to the collapse of their entryway early last Monday.

The collapse happened at 2734 Bainbridge Avenue in Bedford Park.

The Department of Buildings' website shows there's no outstanding violations and only two complaints against the building. But residents say problems with the building run rampant.

"We as residents of this building have to worry about kids and people walking through and the floor caving in on them. The building is pretty old it's about 80-years old so you know what can you expect," said Jamel Dow, a resident.

"This building is really old, I'll tell you what it's poor maintenance here, super doesn't do anything here so it was bound to happen, one way or another," said Aaron Williams, a resident.

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NEWS

Brooklyn Assemblyman Felix Ortiz calls for strip club tax

Brooklyn Assemblyman Felix Ortiz is proposing a \$10 tax on patrons of nude and semi-nude dance clubs and strip bars.

The Democrat, who brought the nation its first law against driving while using a cell phone, said the tax revenue would help victims of human trafficking.

"Moneys generated have the potential to be a tremendous boost to these groups," Ortiz said. "Through this bill, New York State will continue to forge a path for other states to follow."

The bill calls for the \$10-a-patron tax for any so-called adult entertainment business that serves food and drink and presents nude or partly nude dancers. The bill doesn't have a Senate sponsor yet.

Manhattan Doctor Allows Patients To Choose Sex Of Baby

A fertility doctor is causing controversy over his offer to create genetically-engineered babies.

Dr Jeff Steinberg, who operates clinics in Manhattan and Los Angeles, has already allowed thousands of parents to select the gender of their babies.

According to published reports, Steinberg says that within six months, he will be able to let parents choose their baby's eye, hair, and even skin color.

While there are no state or federal laws against the process, critics say it's unethical and may not even be possible.

More people taking public transit

While politicians debate whether or not to rescue the MTA to prevent fare hikes and service cuts, a new report shows the borough had the largest increase in bus ridership in the city over the past five years.

An average of 558,919 people rode the bus in the Bronx on weekdays in 2008, which is 43,840 more people than in 2003, says a report called "Transit Overload" put out by the Center for an Urban Future.

Twenty Bronx subway stations also had 50% or greater increases in riders.

"This shows how dependent this borough is on public transportation. It is extraordinary," said Jonathan Bowles, director of the Center for an Urban Future.

"More of the Manhattan workforce has had to move to the outer boroughs. For the most part, new immigrants do not have cars," he continued. "The rise in congestion and oil prices nationwide and in New York has been pushing people to transit."

As in past years, the Yankee Stadium, Third Ave. at 149th St. and Parkchester subway stops saw the most riders.

Hundreds Mourn Jamaicans Who Perished In Plane Crash

By Aubrey L. Campbell, JIS/NY.

Hundreds of mourners led by Deputy Consul General of Jamaica, Mrs. Tracey Blackwood, New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine and Bloomfield City Councilman Nicholas Joanow, packed into the Jersey City Assembly Hall of Jehovah's Witness on Saturday, February 28, to remember four Jamaicans killed on February 12.

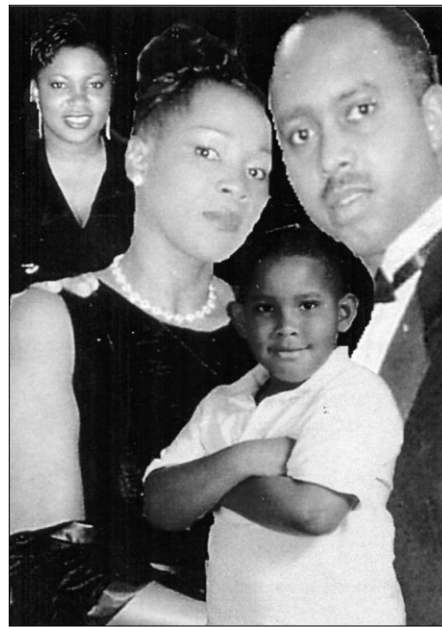
The four, all from one family, perished when the Continental Connection Flight 3407 from New Jersey to Buffalo, NY, crashed during bad weather on approaching the Buffalo Airport, killing all 49 passengers aboard and one person on the ground.

The majority of the more than 1,000 mourners attending the memorial service did not know those who died but came out nonetheless to show their support.

David Tanelli in his 'funeral discourse,' highlighted a very close knit family, united in its zeal for helping others to know what the Bible teaches.

Donald Mossop served as an elder for over a decade in the North Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses in Montclair, NJ. He worked as a technician at Xerox for over 22 years.

"From the time he was a child, he had



TOGETHER, FOREVER. Photograph of the cover of the programme at the memorial service for members of the Mossop/Reid family, which perished in the February 12, 2009, plane crash in Buffalo, NY. The photo shows in happier times, Ferris Reid (left, background), sister of Dawn; Dawn and Donald Mossop and their son Shawn (foreground).

-JIS/NY Photo.

a passion for learning how things worked and fixing them when they were broken,"

noted Brett Jackson, a North Congregation member.

Donald's wife, Dawn, an executive secretary with Schering-Plough, was remembered as someone who was enthusiastic about life and who loved to spend time with her siblings. She was an outstanding cook who impressed many with her culinary skills.

Shawn Mossop, the couple's 12-year old son was remembered as an academically gifted child at math, science and writing. He told teachers he wanted to be an engineer.

Ferris Reid, Dawn's sister, was a registered nurse with the Patient Care Services of East Orange, NJ.

Family members travelled from Jamaica and Canada to attend the service.

Speaking with JIS/NY News after the service, Brett Jackson said, "the North Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses deeply misses these persons given the warmth and love they demonstrated to all but they look forward to being reunited with them in the righteous new world that the Bible foretells that this earth will be transformed into by God's Kingdom".

The family thanked the Jamaican Consul General for her prayers and support.

NYC man pleads guilty to election night hate crime

A man accused of leading an election night rampage that put one victim in a coma told a judge Monday he organized the attacks because he was drunk and angry about Barack Obama's victory.

Ralph Nicoletti, 18, made the statements in federal court in Brooklyn as he pleaded guilty to hate-crime assault. He faces 12 years in prison if the judge accepts the plea agreement at sentencing on March 23.

Nicoletti told U.S. District Judge Carol B. Amonthat that he and three other men were monitoring election returns on the Internet at a makeshift clubhouse in their Staten Island neighborhood when they decided that if Obama won, they would "go after black people" they assumed had voted for the Illinois Democrat.

"I was drunk. I was angry," Nicoletti said when asked by the judge why he did it. The remaining defendants — two other white men and one Hispanic man — had previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges. They each face up to 10 years behind bars.

Prosecutors had accused Nicoletti of driving the group to a black neighborhood, where they stopped a Liberian immigrant and beat him with a metal pipe and police baton.

They later pushed a black man to the ground, demanded that a Hispanic man tell them how he voted, and yelled profanities about Obama as they drove past blacks at a hair salon, court papers said.

Finally, the defendants used their car to run over a white man, Ronald Forte, who they mistakenly believed was black, the papers said. The victim was in a coma for several days but survived.



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CARIBBEAN NEWS

NEWS BRIEF

College of Regulators formed to look into financial crisis in the region

BELMOPAN, Belize: Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Heads of Government have fully endorsed the recent formation of a College of Regulators assigned to determine the full scope and location of the assets and liabilities of CL Financial Group, in the wake of the financial crisis in the region.

IRS seeks to recover \$227 million in unpaid taxes from Stanford

DALLAS/ST CROIX, USVI: Investors in Allen Stanford's Antiguan bank may have to get in line behind the Internal Revenue Service as they seek to recover money from the alleged swindler. The IRS asked a judge to let it continue to seek at least \$226.6 million in back taxes from Stanford.

Puerto Rico financial services group adjusts dividends to preserve capital

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico: The Board of Directors of Puerto Rico-based financial services group, Oriental Financial Group, on Friday adjusted dividends to an annualized rate of \$0.16 per share to align it to current price levels of Oriental's stock and to preserve approximately \$9.7 million a year in capital.

CSEC enrollment reaches five-year high

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados: The number of students taking the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) exams is at a five-year high. Enrollment has steadily increased since 2005, with the exception of a slight dip in 2008. Those hoping to see improvements in education should judge this increase carefully.

Guyana's education ministry to tackle marijuana possession in schools

GEORGETOWN, Guyana: Coordinator of the schools welfare department with the Ministry of Education in Guyana told a news conference recently that, following reports of marijuana use becoming prevalent in schools around the country, the ministry of education has undertaken a massive campaign.

UVI receives grant to help students attend college

ST THOMAS, USVI: The University of the Virgin Islands, in collaboration with the US Virgin Islands Board of Education and the Office of the Governor, has received a \$330,000 two-year grant to increase the number of students in the US Virgin Islands who enter colleges and universities.

Brooklyn's Borough President Marty Markowitz (c) congratulates the Government and People of St. Lucia for 30 years of Independence at a recent flag raising ceremony at Brooklyn Borough Hall. In the photograph is St. Lucia's Ambassador to the United Nations Dr. Donatus St. Aimee and St. Lucian Ann Marie Adamson, Policy Analyst, in the Office of Brooklyn's Borough President.



UK says ready to oust Turks and Caicos gov for corruption charges

LONDON, England: Britain said last Monday it was ready to remove the cabinet and elected assembly of a Caribbean colony, the Turks & Caicos Islands, after an investigation found evidence of widespread corruption.

A Commission of Inquiry was set up in July last year to look into whether there had been corruption involving past or present elected members of the islands' House of Assembly, the 21-member parliament.

The island group, whose population is about 32,000, is marketed by its tourist board as a paradise of unspoiled beaches and coral reefs.

The head of the Commission, retired judge Robin Auld, said in an interim report

that his enquiries had turned up information pointing to a "high probability" of systemic corruption in Turks & Caicos.

"Coupled also with clear signs of political amorality and immaturity and of general administrative incompetence, they have, in my view, demonstrated a need for urgent suspension in whole or in part of the Constitution," he said.

Auld's report painted a chaotic picture of the islands, saying government was at a near standstill, the cabinet was divided and the financial position was so bad that the government could not pay many of its bills.

The islands suffered from "chronic ills collectively amounting to a national emergency," he said.

US companies get Cuba trademarks, wait for change

HAVANA, Cuba: The opening of a McDonald's in Communist Cuba seems unlikely any time soon, even with US President Barack Obama in the White House and the prospect of better US-Cuba relations on the horizon.

But the fast food giant is one of many US companies that have an estimated 5,000 products trademarked in Cuba, waiting for the day they might finally land on the island separated from the United States by the Florida Straits and a vast ideological gulf.

The list includes ubiquitous symbols of capitalism such as Nike, Visa, and Starbucks and some that might surprise, including former basketball stars Magic Johnson and Patrick Ewing and the caped crime-fighter Batman.

As recently as December the Cuban Office of Intellectual Property registered trademarks for new products for Coca-Cola, Google and Ford Motor Co.

Many US trademarks date back to before the January 1, 1959 revolution that put Fidel Castro in power and transformed the island from a capitalist US ally into a communist foe.

Their names - among them Aunt Jemima, Timex, Quaker Oats, M&M's, Polaroid, Kodak, General Motors, Texaco - invoke a time when Cuba was a consumer society with an affinity for US goods, most of them unavailable since the US imposed a trade embargo against the island in 1962.

UWI widening scope of courses

The University of the West Indies (UWI) recently presented an Open Day in an attempt to promote its open campus.

Also as part of the promotional activity, admissions officers from all four UWI campuses visited high schools in the George Town area and informed students of courses offered.

The open campus has launched several new certificate and degree programmes in addition to the existing courses, catering for students who find it convenient to remain in the Cayman Islands and study, rather than attend university abroad.

The mandate of the open campus, according to Assistant Registrar for Admissions, Marjorie Bolero-Haughton, "Is to unlock the potential of Caribbean people. The open campus is a virtual campus and is primarily supported by people all across the Caribbean."

Ms Bolero-Haughton went on to say, "Graduates of the University are certainly the types of individuals that will one day be poised to run your country. As such, we develop our programmes to service the regions and governments."

Janet M Caroo, Marketing officer for UWI commented, "The open campus functions as a network to deliver education and training in a variety of modalities including face-to-face, distance, online and blended, and delivers quality programmes to meet the learning needs of people in the Cayman Islands."



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TODAY'S BUSINESS

Caribbean Populated Areas Largely Unaffected By Foreclosure Woes

By CWNN Staffwriter

As U.S. foreclosure rates continued to show an upward spiral according to latest figures, area in states with large Caribbean populations seem largely secure from the foreclosure crisis.

A CWNN analysis of the latest foreclosure data from RealtyTrac staffers show that while for the third month there was an increase in foreclosure rates, Caribbean populated cities in states like New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Washington, Philadelphia and Massachusetts are largely exempt from the crisis.

In New York, where Caribbean nationals call Brooklyn, southeast Queens and the Bronx homes, most of the foreclosures were reported in upstate New York, home to largely native-born Americans. Erie and Orange counties were most affected as was Suffolk County in Long Island.

In Philadelphia, areas home to many Caribbeans, in Philadelphia and Montgomery County, are not even on the foreclosure radar according to the report.

Neither is Boston, Massachusetts or Baltimore, Maryland, areas which many Caribbean nationals call home. Also MIA from the list are Alexandria, Virginia and Washington, D.C., areas that are also increasingly home to many Caribbeans.

In Connecticut, Hartford, home to hundreds of Caribbean nationals, has been put on the medium level of the list while in New Jersey the story is the same for Essex County.

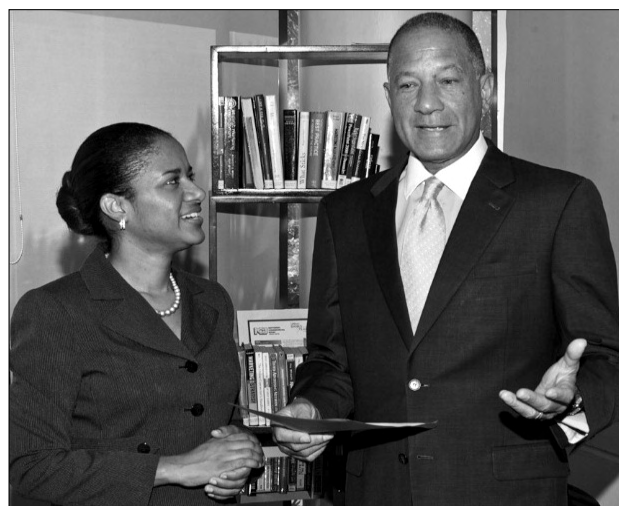
Areas in Florida and Georgia, where many Caribbean nationals live are however, beginning to appear on the high end of the foreclosure ranks.

In Georgia, areas like DeKalb, Fulton and Gwinnett are starting to show up on the upper levels of the foreclosure list with over 1,000 foreclosures reported in those areas.

In Florida, Broward County, home to a significant percentage of Jamaicans, Haitians and other Caribbean nationals is extremely high with over 5,000 foreclosures.

The numbers have landed both Florida and Georgia among the nation's 10 highest foreclosure areas.

February 2009 U.S. Foreclosure Market Reports, shows foreclosure filings — default notices, auction sale notices and bank repossessions — were reported on 290,631 U.S. properties during the month, an increase of nearly 6 per cent from the previous month and an increase of nearly 30 per cent from February 2008. The report also shows one in every 440 U.S. housing units received a foreclosure filing in February.



Stephen Hill, CEO of Caribbean International Network talks with Sheree Martin, Senior Assistant General Manager, NCB Group Marketing and Communications

NCB Reaching Out to Jamaicans in tri-state

According to Stephen Hill, CEO of Caribbean International Network (CIN) "There are over one million Jamaicans in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut (Tri-State) and they represent a huge market for the Jamaican Financial services industry, with the many products they offer. Today, banking is digital and people can now with a click of a button open and access their banking accounts, pay bills and do a host of online banking services."

CIN is a strategic TV platform which links the large Jamaicans and Caribbean audience to their rich history and culture, presents the many positive things that happens in Jamaica and lobbies vigorously for Caribbean affairs.

Hill continues, "It is therefore appropriate that NCB, Jamaica's largest indige-

nous bank has taken this initiative to target the overseas Jamaicans. If we are to grow the Jamaican economy we have to grow exports of goods and services and CIN provides advertisers a platform to promote their brands in the most competitive market in the world, with Nielsen ratings that confirms that CIN is number one among Caribbean viewers"

Sheree Martin, Senior Assistant General Manager, NCB Group Marketing and Communications says NCB is looking forward to a fruitful association with CIN as the network represents a solid opportunity to showcase our strong Jamaican financial services brand and to provide the Diaspora with information on those NCB offerings that can contribute to meeting their financial needs at this time"



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SPORTS

NEWS BRIEF

Bradley wins PGA
Puerto Rico Open

RIO GRANDE, Puerto Rico: Michael Bradley sank a birdie putt on the 18th hole to capture the Puerto Rico Open. Bradley drained an 11-footer to edge Jason Day and Brett Quigley at Trump International Golf Club. With a closing round of two-under-par 70, Bradley finished at 14-under 274.

US oust Dutch to sustain
title hopes in Classic

MIAMI, USA: Jimmy Rollins and Adam Dunn blasted home runs while Roy Oswalt struck out five in four shutout innings to power United States past Netherlands 9-3 in a World Baseball Classic elimination game. The victory sent the Americans, who lost to Puerto Rico 11-1 Saturday, into a do-or-die matchup.

Gayle returns to West
Indies squad for England
one-dayers

MIAMI, USA: West Indies captain Chris Gayle has recovered from a hamstring injury and been named in a 13-man squad for the first two one-day internationals against England in Guyana. Gayle picked up the injury during the drawn fifth test in Trinidad and missed Sunday's Twenty20 triumph.

South Africa to host
Champions Trophy

DUBAI, South Africa: The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Monday officially named South Africa as the new hosts of the biennial Champions Trophy this year. South Africa was recommended last week by cricket's governing body in the wake of incidents in Pakistan.

Japanese blank Cuba in
World Baseball Classic

SAN DIEGO, USA: Daisuke Matsuzaka continued his mastery of Cuban hitters to lead defending champion Japan within a victory of reaching the semi-finals of the World Baseball Classic. The 28-year-old Boston Red Sox right-hander struck out eight in pitching six shutout innings as Japan blanked Cuba 6-0.

Wins for Jamaicans
Williams and Gordon at
NCAA Championships

TEXAS, USA: Jamaicans Kimberly Williams and Nicholas Gordon notched champions honors at the just concluded two day NCAA Indoor Championships inside the Gilliam Indoor Track Stadium here on the Texas A&M campus at the weekend. Williams and Gordon both produced facility records gold in the sand.



Photo Credit:Juliet Kaye

AWARDS: (From left) Wayne Ferguson, Randy Perdomo, DeMarkus Williams, Nicholi Dillon, Brandon Sims, (Standing from left) Romel Johnson, Jaquan Jarvis, Alvin Baker, Pres. Parents Booster Club, Assemblyman William Scarborough, Head Coach Calvin Whitfield, Karl Ravilus, Giovanni Corpus and Jordan Harris. The Jamaica High School Junior Varsity Football Team was awarded trophies at the Annual Banquet. Coach Whitfield called these 9th and 10th graders a tough group who showed a lot of team spirit and had a lot of wins. Many of them will be moving up into the Varsity Football Team next year.

Bolt Among Top Athletes For
Jamaica International Invitational

Triple Olympic gold medalist, Usain Bolt, is among a group of top athletes set for the 2009 Jamaica International Invitational track and field athletics meet.

The event is set for Saturday, May 2 in Jamaica at the island's National Stadium. Also set to race at the Invitational are other Olympians, Jamaicans Veronica Campbell-Brown, Melaine Walker and Shelly-Ann Fraser.

Kerron Clement and Dawn Harper, winner of the 100-m hurdles in Beijing,

along with their United States' team-mate Sanya Richards, the world's number one quarter-miler, are among other leading athletes confirmed for the JAAA event.

Richards was born in Jamaica but runs for the U.S. team.

Meanwhile, Bolt won his first 100



Usain Bolt

this season at a Jamaica meet. He was pushed all the way before winning his first 100 metres race of the year at a local meeting on home soil in Spanish Town, Jamaica on Saturday.

Bolt, 22, returned a wind-assisted 9.93 seconds, the same time as his Racers club mate Daniel Bailey of Antigua who led most of the way until being caught near the line at the meeting in the former Jamaica capital. The wind factor was plus 2.3.

England go down
fighting to West Indies

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad: England failed in their bid for a series-levelling victory, when West Indies held on stoutly for a hard-fought draw in the fifth and final Test here last Tuesday.

England's bowlers put in a big effort, after the visitors set West Indies 240 for victory from a minimum of 66 overs, but the home team resisted strongly to finish on 114 for eight when time ran out.

Graeme Swann was the pick of the England bowlers with three wickets for 13 runs from 21 overs, Jimmy Anderson snared three for 24 from 16 overs, and Monty Panesar bagged two for 34 from 19.5 overs.

West Indies captain Chris Gayle holds the Wisden Trophy aloft after the West Indies won in a five-test match series at Queen's Park Oval in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

The result meant England lost the five-Test series 0-1, following an innings and 23-run defeat in the opening Test at Sabina Park in Jamaica, where they bowled England out for their third-lowest total in Tests of 51.

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LEGAL ISSUES

LEGAL NEWS HEADLINES

Prosecutors charge Madoff's accountant with fraud

Prosecutors have brought fraud charges against Bernard Madoff's longtime accountant. The charges against David Frierling expand the case against Madoff as prosecutors go after other people who may have been involved in Madoff's sprawling fraud.

Former Bush aide gets 30 months in prison

A former Bush White House aide was sentenced to 2 1/2 years in prison for stealing nearly \$600,000 from a government program that promotes democracy in Cuba. Felipe Sixto apologized Wednesday for stealing from the Center for a Free Cuba. He had pleaded guilty Dec. 19 to theft.

Federal judge denies release of alleged terrorist

A federal magistrate in South Carolina has ruled an alleged al-Qaida sleeper agent must stay behind bars as the criminal case against the man continues. U.S. Magistrate Judge Robert Carr on Wednesday turned down a bid by Ali al-Marri to be released on bond.

Donald Trump's Casino Group Files for Bankruptcy Under Chapter 11

Donald Trump's casinos, operating under the Trump Entertainment Group of companies, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection recently.

The bankruptcy petition lists the casino group's assets as between \$10 - \$50 million, with estimated liabilities of between \$100 - \$500 million.

According to an exhibit attached to the filing, on December 31, 2008 Trump casinos had approximately \$1.74 billion in debt and assets of \$2.06 billion. Secured creditors include Donald Trump himself, Morgan Stanley & Co., Franklin Mutual Advisors, LLC, and New York hotel developer Sam Chang.

Mexico slaps tariffs on U.S. goods in truck feud

Mexico slapped tariffs on 90 American agricultural and manufactured exports on Monday in retaliation for Washington's move to block Mexican trucks from using U.S. highways. Mexican Economy Minister Gerardo Ruiz said about \$2.4 billion worth of exports from 40 U.S. states would be affected and that his government would soon publish a list of them.

Questions To Ask Your Potential Lawyer

Here is a handy checklist of basic questions to ask before you hire a lawyer:

- What is your experience in this field?
- Have you handled matters like mine?
- What are the possible outcomes of my case?
- What are my alternatives in resolving the matter?
- Approximately how long will it take to resolve?
- Do you recommend mediation or arbitration?
- What are your rates and how often will you bill me?
- What is a ballpark figure for the total bill, including fees and expenses?
- How will you keep me informed of progress?
- What kind of approach will you take to resolve the matter - aggressive and unyielding, or will you be more inclined to reach a reasonable settlement?
- Who else in the office will be working on my case?
- Can junior attorneys or paralegals in the office handle some of the substantive legal work at a lower rate?

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LEGAL TALK: Maurice Maitland (r) of the Law Offices of Maurice D. Maitland talks American laws with Anthony Johnson, Jamaica's ambassador to the US at a welcome party in honor of the ambassador.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Rum Expert And Writer Ian Williams For The 151 Reggae Show

By Anthony Turner

On Friday, March 20, viewers and a live studio audience of the Reggae Internet 151 Show are in for a treat when the show will host rum expert and writer Ian Williams to speak on an important pillar of the history, politics, economics and culture of the Caribbean - rum. A live studio audience will also have an opportunity to sample rum brands from around the world.

The rum show can be seen live on Axiomonline.tv on Friday March 20 from 9:00 p.m. to midnight EST. The show, like all 151 Reggae shows, will also be archived and can be viewed on demand at the same website. Typically, resident DJ Ness plays a blend of reggae classics and blazing new joints. Interviews with interesting personalities, live performances, dancers, fashion segments and reggae news are also features of the show.

For more, and to be a part of the studio audience, go to www.myspace.com/daverodney

28th Annual International Reggae and World Music Awards (IRAWMA)

Tickets for the coveted black tie made for television celebration of reggae royalty and the red carpet 28th Annual International Reggae and World Music Awards (IRAWMA) are now on sale at www.ticketmaster.com or 800/745-3000, and also from IRAWMA'S box office 877/9-REGGAE and the York College Performing Arts Center box office 718-262-2840.

Advance VIP tickets are \$150 and general admission tickets \$75 (more at the door). Tickets are also available from selected sponsors' location.



-Photo Credit: Juliet Kaye

SINGLE, BLACK, FEMALE: Stars of the comedy "Single, Black, Female" Shrine Babb (l) and Soara-Joye Ross (from the original off Broadway cast) are making their Queens debut at Black Spectrum Theater in Roy Wilkins Park. Performances Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 PM and Sunday matinee at 4:00 PM. Call 718-723-1800 for tickets or visit their website at www.blackspectrum.com. Tickets are \$30. Free parking is available. The theater is located in Roy Wilkins Park, on Baisley Boulevard and 177th St. near Merrick Boulevard in St. Albans, Queens.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

by Mitch Rosten <mitchrosten@yahoo.com>

Hot Rocks....The North Fork Theater at Westbury will present Dave Mason and Leon Russell-March 13th, The Irish Tenors St Patrick Show-15th, George Thorogood and The Destroyers-19th, Going To The City?.....Madison Square Garden will present Motley Crue-March-16th, Fleetwood Mac-March-19th....The Black Culinary Alliance -16th Annual Cultural Awareness Salute will Take place on March-14th at 7pm at the Marriot Marquis Hotel, 1535 Broadway, NYC - This formal attire event will have a cocktail Reception at 6:30pm followed by a general reception, silent auction And dinner, prepared by some of the country top chefs and top wines Along with dancing and entertainment. The guest speaker is Ines Rosales and for more info on tickets call-646-548-2949....

Levon Helm, the ex-drummer of the group, the band came Into the New York for a couple of sold out concerts at the Beacon Theater in NYC. Drawing from a combination of his solo material And some prior hits from his days with - The Band. His live show

Was a terrific combination of southern rock and blues, county And folk which sounded terrific live. His group, which included His adult daughter, Amy (who played guitar, drums and sang) Blended into perfectly as an ensemble and all had nice solos.

Older songs like "Rag Mama Rag" and "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down" sounded updated with strong Modern arrangements. Helm seems to enjoy himself on stage And involved the Beacon Audience with a flair which was simple

ENTERTAINMENT BEAT

with Stefy Famous
<stefyfamous@yahoo.com>



Danny English Carnal Abuse Case Dismissed

Danny English can finally focus on his life and music after his carnal abuse case was dismissed. Born Donald Cox, English was arrested on July 6, 2007 and charged with four counts of carnal abuse and one count of indecent assault. He was accused of molesting a female minor in December 2004. The complainant reportedly visited Cox' house frequently and it was during one of those visits the alleged molestation occurred.

In court recently the complainant, now 17, went into the witness box and said she did not wish to testify. Justice Raymouth King directed the jury to return a formal verdict of not guilty.

Jamaican Dancer Bruck Up Releases Single

Bruck Up has taken a hiatus from dancing and has been in the studio recording his single "Sunglasses at Night". This is a collaboration with Shortman Movements from Heavy Hitters & Soundboy Music, and is a high energy, certified blazing, up-tempo dance beat which includes the latest swagger lingo, and calls dancers to the dance floor with their 'stunna shades'.

New York's premiere DJ, Jabba from Hot 97FM was the radio DJ to premiere the song and listeners called in to request several 'pull-ups'. Since then, "Sunglasses" has been the number one tune download on L3 Music Distribution's download service which services over 1,000 radio DJs worldwide. After years of recording Bruck Up finally

released a good single.

Wyclef Jean Joins Bill Clinton For Haiti Tour

Wyclef Jean is touring his native Haiti with former U.S. president Bill Clinton in a bid to raise international awareness about the poverty-stricken country.

The Fugees star, arrived in Haiti and was invited to join the four-day fact finding mission by Clinton and the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

The U.N. Security Council delegation met with Haiti's president Rene Preval and top government officials to discuss the country's struggles and come up with ways to attract international attention and aid. And Jean is grateful to be given the opportunity to voice his opinions on a topic so close to his heart.

Jean recently announced plans to build a school in Haiti in conjunction with his charitable organization.

Spragga's Son's Alleged Killers Appear In Court

The two policemen charged with the murder of the son of dancehall artiste, Spragga Benz, appeared in the Home Circuit Court recently.

Supreme Court Judge Lennox Campbell extended bail for the two men to return to court on May 8, when the case will be mentioned. Another mention date was set after the court was told that the file was still incomplete.

Constables Audley Lawrence and André Hare are both charged with the murder of 17-year-old Carlton Grant, Jr. They are on bail in the sum of \$300,000 each, with sureties.

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Serge Madhere, DDS - Howard Univ. Grad., Cosmetic & General Dentistry



I MADE YOU LOOK: After giving the fashion world a case of Déjà vu with their theatrical Fall 2008 show, Brooklyn-based model management firm EyezonFashion gets even bolder with "I Made You Look" Spring Fashion 2009 runway show. The show will be held Saturday, April 4th at the swanky Tropical Reflections entertainment venue in Brooklyn's East Flatbush neighborhood. New York-based designers Chyna Doll, Kashé Kouture, Aroma & Styles, Sa-Shea, Fire & Ice, and Versetile, will style EyezonFashion models in everything from urban to haute couture pieces as they unveil their unique new looks for Spring 2009.

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COALITION TO PRESERVE

REGGAE: On Wednesday, March 4 the Coalition to Preserve Reggae music (CPR) in association with ZYNC TV NEW YORK LINKS hosted a community forum and panel discussion titled, "Could Dancehall be the ruination of Reggae and by extension the Jamaica brand?" The forum was held at Billie Holiday Theater in Brooklyn. Jamaica Consul General Brown-Metzger (third left) poses with members of the panel (from left) Carter Van Pelt, Jon "FX" Crawford, Sharon Gordon, Ed Robinson, Sheron Hamilton-Pearson, Cristy Barber and Anthony Turner.

-Sharon Bennett Photo:



MARCH FOR IMMIGRANT: Thousands of immigrants and their supporters urge elected officials to enact policies that will leverage their talents to help survive the current downturn and rebuild the city's economy. In photo, Council Member Mathieu Eugene joins Haitian Americans United for Progress in a march to City Hall.



Consul General of Jamaica in New York, Genevieve Brown Metzger was recently in Minnesota for the launch of a line of Jamaica products at the Supervalu supermarket stores in that state. Her trip was co-ordinated with the help of the Jamaica Minnesota Organization (JMO). Consul General Brown Metzger (second left) visited the Jamaican section of the supermarket with members of the JMO leadership team.

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Rihanna's Mentor Says It's Difficult Time For The Bajan Star

The man who discovered and made a star out of Bajan-born singer, Rihanna, has broken his silence on the alleged domestic violence acts perpetrated on his mentee.

Veteran music producer Evan Rogers told Entertainment Weekly in an exclusive interview that the Grammy Award winning singer is 'doing the best she can' right now.

But he admitted it is 'a very difficult time that she's going through right now and she's going to learn a lot from it.'

Rogers also insisted that people need to remember that the perspective of a 21-year-old is very different, 'whether you're a celebrity or not.'

DOUGLAS FIDLER -The News Link of Linkage Radio

New York radio has found the answer to providing its listeners with the latest breaking news from Jamaica! As he has done for over 26 years, Douglas Fidler continues to deliver the news in his inimitable style.

For the past six months, Fidler has kept listeners eagerly awaiting his delivery of the noon and 5:00 p.m. news on WLNK 101.5 FM.

LinkageRadio, (www.linkageradio.com) a hugely popular community based station, is



**Douglas
Fidler**

managed by Dexter Blake, a local entrepreneur and has earned a reputation for delivering quality programming. The twice daily newscast ranks as one of its most popular programs.

In addition to Linkage Radio, Douglas can be heard on Mondays, at 8:15 a.m. on Road Block Radio, New Jersey, with host Rupie T.

He is also a member of the Hudson Valley's Reggae Spectrum family, WVKR, 91.3 FM (www.reggaespectrum.com), heard on Saturdays, 6pm – 9 pm, with hosts Dexie B and Georgia.



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THE MATH CLUB UPDATES



Congratulating and Rewarding Our children

by Jeffrey Blake
President, The Math Club

In a time like this when the United States is facing a very grave economic crisis, when the failing and drop-out rates among our school children are at an all time high, we must take every opportunity to congratulate and reward our children when they do good in school.

This responsibility is for parents, but most of all it is for the “village”. It is everyone’s responsibility to ensure that we recognize and shower our children with accolades when they perform good in school.

We are living in a time when it is like a curse for a child to behave in a manner that says he wants to be the best he can be. A child who wants to study and achieve greatness in his school career has to mask his intentions as much as possible, so that he/she is not labeled as the worst creature that ever walked the earth, or called names most of us would not want to repeat.

Therefore the “village” has the responsibility of giving that child who is living a double life, the assurance and confidence that will motivate them to do well no matter what it takes.

We must let them know that no matter what names their peers call them they should always strive to do well.

Kennedy Jimenez, a student from KAPPA Middle School in the Bronx is not ashamed to say that he is a genius, and is willing to work hard to get good grades.

He has done it; he has passed the Specialized High School exam. Now the “village” must respond and reward him in a public show, so that other children can see that good achievements in school can bring great rewards.

I have communicated with Attorney Donald Vernon, and he is willing to go along with any good event that we can come up with.

So I am canvassing among other interested persons to see what the most appropriate event would be. I am appealing to everyone in the in the “village” to unite around this cause just like how we rally to the campaign of Barack Obama. Remember it takes a village to raise a child.

Thank you, Jeffrey

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Math Club Competition Winners

- 2004 – Crystal Robinson

2006 – Antara Chowdhury

2007 – Kevin Peng

2007 – Karen Luo

2008 – No Competition

2009 – Alex Lui

2009 – Christopher Chong
- Grade 7 – IS 217

• Grade 7 – MS 101

• Grade 7 – MS 74

• Grade 8 – MS 158

• Grade 7 – JHS 216

• Grade 8 – MS 158

Contact Us
THE MATH CLUB
114 NELSON AVE. PEEKSKILL, NY 10566
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Meet Kennedy Jimenez

Kennedy Jimenez is a household name around KAPPA Middle School (MS 215) located at 3630 Third Ave in the Bronx. He is one of the humblest students you ever come across, despite his many achievements that many would boast about. Kennedy is presently in the eighth grade.

He started KAPPA at grade six. He achieved a perfect score in the Grade 6 Math state exam. He has been getting level 4 in both math and ELA state exams in grade 6 and 7.

His high level of achievement continues. Kennedy has emerged as the only student to have passed the specialized high school test out of the group of students who had



Kennedy Jimenez

taken it. As is known, the specialized high school test is one of the hardest exams to pass. A passing

score in this exam allows a student to gain admittance to one of several prestigious high schools in New York City. Kennedy will be attending the High School of Math, Science and Engineering at City College. His ambition is to become an Engineer. Kennedy seems to be a natural talent. He attributes his success to paying attention in class.

He claims that he does not study and is not afraid to say that he is a genius. He, however advises that one should study, study, study and work hard. He says he likes it at KAPPA. KAPPA’s mission is that all its graduates will make it to college.

Kennedy likes to draw and play games.



Mr. James Alston presents the trophy and certificate to Alex Lui, the top seventh grader in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Math Competition. Mr. Alston also presented the McCall’s Bronxwood Dell computer to Alex Lui.



Dr. Ben Allen presents trophy and certificate to Christopher Chong. Dr. Allen also present Christopher with the Donald Vernon Computer for being the top 8th grader in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Math Competition.

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION ROUND ROBIN

Due to the present economic situation most volunteer organizations will find it very difficult to raise funds through the traditional ways.

Writing letters to corporations and individuals will not yield enough, if any funds to assist volunteer organizations with operation dollars. Profit organizations will be trying to hold on to as much of their income in a time when banks are not lending freely, and sales are down drastically.

Therefore all not-for-profit organizations will have to find creative ways of fund raising. Not-for-profit organizations must form alliances and support each other when they promote their

fund raisers. Bars, clubs and other businesses do “Round Robins” to support each other. The businesses that are in the alliance will direct their customers to a member of the alliance periodically. This will go around until all the businesses receive their day, and then it starts all over.

I am suggesting that all volunteer organizations form an alliance where every organization commits to buy a certain amount of tickets in support of each fund raiser. Therefore every organization in the alliance will be assured of support of the other organizations for their fund raisers.

This will create a climate of “Unity Is Strength” atmosphere we have never seen before. People

will come together, and work together like no one has ever seen.

The Math Club will start working with the soccer organizations, the church groups and the soup kitchens. This will be the way forward, and only this type of unity can take the country out of the recession and bring prosperity in the long run. We must provide quality service to those who need it at a very low cost, and also to the provider of the service.

If your organization is interested in forming an alliance to do the Round Robin fund raisers please contact The Math Club at 914-930-8717 or jefreyblake2@optonline.net

Summer entertainment for youths in the Bronx

With the winter all but over and summer climes not too far in the distant future, it might be no surprise that youths in the Bronx and nearby environs are beginning to think about options to explore in the summer.

One option for them, which might be one of the Bronx’s worst kept secret, is the Bronx New York International soccer League (BNYISL) games at Evander Childs HS stadium on Gun Hill Rd between White Plains Road and Barnes Avenue. The League features an eclectic offering of ex-professionals,

college players on break from school, several of whom are good enough or aspiring to join the ranks of the pros, and high school players.

The league which features teams from different nationalities from all over the tri-state area including the Bronx, Westchester, Long Island, Queens, Brooklyn and New Jersey, begins in May on Memorial weekend and concludes the second weekend of September.

So youths and their parents and guardians have nearly four months to see exciting and entertaining soccer games in a most friendly envi-

ronment every Saturday and Sunday afternoon beginning 3 pm until 9 pm.

With soccer fast becoming one of the high school sports to offer more and more college scholarships, the BNYISL, which in recent years has become one of those avenues, has become a hunting ground for such adolescent talents.

Several of the top high school players in the area have strutted their stuff on the Evander Childs HS turf, many of whom literally grew up with the league in front of their eyes.

YOUTH IN FOCUS



ASK DR. KAREN
'The Kids Therapist'

By Dr. Karen Gordon

Two Predictors for Your Child's School Success

Researchers examining the best predictors of school success cite a child's early academic and attention skills.

In kindergarten, a child's ability to master math concepts, as well as, early language and reading skills predicts later academic achievement.

These academic tasks include: having the knowledge and understanding of numbers and the order of numbers, knowing letters and understanding their sounds (phonetics), and having a range of vocabulary.

Attention skills in early childhood also play a role in later achievement.

Specifically, a child's ability to inhibit impulsive behaviors, concentrate while working on tasks, and remain motivated to learn.

Children with Hearing Loss should Receive Early Intervention

Children with hearing loss that is detected at an early age should receive early-intervention to have positive outcomes. Children are commonly screened for congenital hearing loss as newborns.

Children who are not indentified until much later experience delayed language development, cognitive performance, social skills, and academic performance. National guidelines recommend universal screening by one month of age, detection by three months, and appropriate intervention no later than 6 months.

A recent study, at the Rhode Island universal newborn hearing screening program, found that children with minimal/mild hearing loss had significantly lower number of phrases understood, words understood, and gestures made when compared to children with moderate/profound hearing loss. Positive gains were also observed for children with hearing loss who received early intervention at 3 months and younger.

These children had significantly higher receptive and expressive language abilities when compared to a group who received early intervention at 3 months and older.

It is unclear whether children with moderate/profound hearing loss will eventually catch up to children with mild/minimal hearing loss, but it is advised that all children with hearing loss receive specialized early intervention services.

Dr. Karen Gordon is a child psychotherapist with over ten years experience working with children and families. Her agency, Citywide Child and Family Services, Inc., offers therapy services, referrals and resources for families. All questions should be forwarded to nyckids@gmail.com.



JAMAICAN STUDENTS AT UN CONFERENCE: More than 25 students and teachers from four high schools in Jamaica (Campion College, Munro College, Jamaica College, The Queens School), participated in the 33rd Annual UNIS-UN Student Conference at the United Nations headquarters here in New York City. Over the two days – Thursday/Friday, March 5-6 – the Jamaicans youngsters and their colleagues from over 150 countries around the world, heard first hand, from a number of speakers on the global challenge posed by the current food crisis. For many in the group, the conference changed their perspective of a global community trying desperately to feed itself.

-JIS/NY Photo

Fewer City Schools Make 'Needs Improvement' List

Fewer city schools have made the state's list of those needing improvement.

A total of 401 schools are on the list this year, that's down from 432 last year.

The state says 34 schools were added to the list this year, while 48 schools were dropped from the list, including Landmark High School in Manhattan.

"It shows that we're actually improving academically and we're doing our work and we're just not slacking and

doing nothing in school," said Ingrid Diaz, a student at Landmark High.

"They're not in school with us so they're just judging us on test scores. What I feel they should do is they should come put themselves in a child's point of view," said Stephanie Clemente, a student at School for the Physical City.

In all, 543 schools across the state made the list.

The findings are required under the No Child Left Behind Act.

Former Queens English Teacher Pleads Guilty To Giving Minors Indecent Material

A former teacher at a Queens middle school pleaded guilty Tuesday to charges he gave indecent material to minors, after prosecutors say he sent sexual videos and text messages to some of his students.

The Queens District Attorney says 24-year-old Umesh Ramjattan sent the materials to three 12-year-old female students at M.S. 137 in South Ozone Park,

where he worked as an English teacher.

The D.A. says one of the videos was of Ramjattan having sex with his girlfriend.

As part of his plea, Ramjattan has to surrender his teaching license, forfeit his computer and register as a sex offender.

He is currently out on \$50,000 bail and is awaiting sentencing on April 20.

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COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

How to Diagnose Problems
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At .65-inches, the Adamo is one of the thinnest laptops ever, sitting five-hundredths of an inch closer to the ground than the Envy (.7"). But at 4 pounds, it's heavier than both the Air (3 pounds) and the Envy (3.4 pounds). Its machined, one-piece aluminum chassis and glass display round out the premium features found on the Adamo.



The 13.4-inch Adamo has a 720p, 16:9 screen, 2-gigabytes of DDR3 RAM (max 4GB), 802.11n wi-fi, Bluetooth 2.1, and is currently rated for 5+ hours of battery life. It also has 2 USB ports + USB / eSATA combo port, and connects to DisplayPort, HDMI, VGA and DVI with optional cables. The laptop runs on the Intel Mobile 965 Express chipset, making use of GMX4500 integrated graphics for its visual juice.

Your hard drive contains all of your important data, like the Windows Operating System, pictures, music, and other data you do not want to lose. Keeping track of the health of your hdd is a dubious chore. Unfortunately, most people do not realize there is a problem before it's too late and they lose all of their data.



You can spot early warning signs of imminent failure if your hard drive has SMART technology. SMART stands for Self-monitoring Analysis and Reporting Technology and will often give you

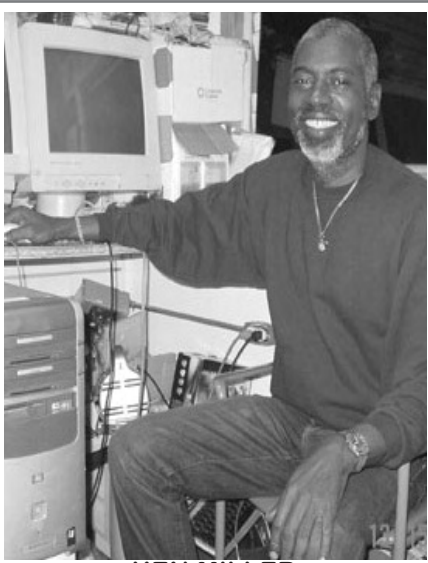
a notice if the drive is experiencing problems. If you see a warning like that at boot, be sure to backup you data and buy a new drive.

Generally speaking, if you begin getting errors or blue screens that you cannot recover from, or if you occasionally cannot boot into Normal Mode or Safe Mode, then your hard drive might be on the way out.

Problems will start intermittently and gradually grow worse.

If you start experiencing these problems, you can try running chkdsk. Chkdsk will repair errors (if you specify that) and make sure data is no longer written to those areas of the disk. To run a chkdsk, right click the hard drive and select Properties. Under the Tools tab, click Check Now in the Error Checking area. A box will pop up. Choose Automatically Fix Errors and Scan for and attempt recovery of bad sectors. You will likely need to reboot before the check begins and it could take quite a while.

Make sure the size of the hard



KEN MILLER
Contributing Editor- Computer
For Questions and Comments:
netprosolution@optonline.net
718-655-6387

drive appears correctly in the BIOS and in My Computer. For instance, if the drive once reported it was 20 Gigs and now reports as 13 Gigs, there could be a problem.

Listen for strange noises from the hard drive. You have been using your PC for a long time, if the hard drive begins making scraping, churning or any other sounds out of the ordinary, then it could mean the drive's actuator arm is damaged or perhaps the ball bearings on the spindle are starting to go.

Comcast: Exposed User Data Not From
Internal Leak

JR Raphael, PC Worl
Comcast now believes a phishing or malware scam is to blame for exposing hundreds of its customers' user names and passwords. A list containing around 8,000 names was discovered by a PC World reader this week and brought to the company's attention.

Information Exposed

The list, which had been posted on document sharing site Scribd, was found by Kevin Andreyo -- a educational technology specialist and university professor in Reading, Pa. Andreyo read our recent report on people search engines and decided to follow its suggestions to see what kind of dirt he could dig up on himself. While detailed personal information is common to those types of searches, Andreyo never expected to come across his actual user name and password for his Internet service provider.

"I thought, 'All right, this doesn't seem like this should be available to the public,'" he says.

Andreyo went on to contact both Comcast and the FBI. The document is no longer online, though it still lives on in various cache and online history services.

Comcast's Investigation

Following its investigation, Comcast has concluded the list did not come from an internal leak, as had initially been speculated by some, but rather from a third-

party attack -- most likely phishing- or malware-oriented.

"We're trying to figure out exactly how this information could have been assembled," Comcast spokesperson Charlie Douglas says. "We have no reason to believe, though, that any Comcast system was compromised."

Comcast is in the midst of contacting all of the customers whose data was exposed. After examining the list, the company believes the number of affected users is far less extreme than it first appeared: The majority of the user names, Douglas says, were either duplicates or old and inactive accounts. Only 700 of the 8,000 user names listed, he believes, were actually authentic and unique.

Comcast is now working with Internet crime investigators to determine how the data was obtained.

Community Concern

For Andreyo, the conclusion is of little comfort. He questions the phishing explanation - he's confident his computing knowledge and active security systems would keep him protected from such threats - but more troubling to him is that he was the first to take action after viewing the list. By the time Andreyo came across the document during his search this week, it had been posted for at least two months. Within that time, nearly 350 people had viewed it, and a couple dozen had even downloaded it to their own PCs.



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Solution for
puzzle on page
19

Roaring Twenties Solution:	
1. Acre	11. Molar
2. Century	12. Mile
3. Day	13. Minute
4. Foot	14. Month
5. Fortnight	15. Pint
6. Furlong	16. Quart
7. Gallon	17. Second
8. Hour	18. Week
9. Inch	19. Yard
10. Liter	20. Year

LIFESTYLE

Single and Sick Of It

Why am I still single? Many women ask, with looks of fear, desperation and hopelessness. Do not give up, there is hope. Try these steps.

- Look back at your past relationships. Why didn't they work? Look at things honestly and learn from your mistakes.

- Acknowledge what you own in a relationship. If you look at relationships that haven't worked, the common denominator is you! That means you own part of the problem. Create your own experience and control the choices you make. Your behavior and decisions have consequences. Take responsibility for them.

- Always be your authentic self, which is who you are when you have no fear of judgment, or before the world starts pushing you around and telling you who you're supposed to be. Your fictional self is who you are when you try to please everyone else, this doesn't work if you want a lasting relationship.

- A mistake of many single people is that they try to change themselves for the person they are dating. When you do that, you're not being true to who you are.

- If what you're doing isn't working,



change it. Do something different. Don't be someone you're not

- Decide what kind of person you're looking for. If you're looking for a man who loves the outdoors, go there. And if you're not looking for a barfly, don't go to a bar to meet someone!

- Recognize that you don't have to be in a relationship to be whole. It is better to be happy alone than sick with someone else. The most important relationship you have is the one you have with yourself.

- Don't put pressure on yourself. You don't have to be married. It's not required. Stop telling yourself you have to get a ring on your finger.

- Don't act desperate. Send a message that you "want to" be in a relationship, not that you've "got to."

Loving Without Losing Yourself!

By Allie Ochs

You are in love and it feels wonderful. This love is different and you are prepared to do anything to make it last. To prevent this ship from sinking you



work hard to steer this relationship into a safe harbor. In the process you lose yourself and your romantic relationship becomes all-consuming!

While compromise in a relationship is a necessary ingredient for its success, denying the core of who you are is not. When you finally realize that an all-consuming relationship is depleting you, there will be nothing left but resentment. It will be difficult to reclaim yourself while remaining in that same relationship. The outcome of such a relationship is usually a heart-breaking crisis, with no one but you

to blame.

The opposite of an all-consuming relationship is a half-hearted relationship. In this relationship you withhold affection until the evidence is in that the other is hooked. I love you, if you love me first has become a common trend.

Fearing that you will give more love than you receive, you put your partner on probation and control the power in this relationship. You judge according to your expectations and keep track of his or her scores. The higher the scores, the more you are willing to reward with love. This conditional view creates tremendous emotional insecurity.

All-consuming or halfhearted relationships are very unnatural and unhealthy. Ironically, both types are guided by fear. In an all-consuming relationship, fear of not being loved is the driving force. In a half-hearted relationship, fear of being hurt prevents you from knocking down protective walls.

Erectle Dysfunction (ED) Impotence

Erectle Dysfunction (Impotence) can be caused by Stress, Depression, Unhappy Relationships, Physical and Mental Problems.

- 50% of men over 40 years old are affected as they grow older.

- High Blood Pressure, Diabetes etc. and certain medication can be a major contributing factor to ED.

- Smoking, alcohol and drug abuse should be avoided, as this can worsen the situation.

- The cause of impotence is restricted blood flow to the penis.

There are natural herbal formulas to help when taken 10-15 minutes before sexual activity.

For more information: 347-733-6375 or www.enhancersforyou.com



ADVICE COLUMN

BY
DIVINE DIVA



Great Sexual Experience

Dear Divine Diva:

Recently I had a wonderful sexual experience, that brought me to tears. Why do some women cry after an orgasm? - Robin in the Bronx

Dear Robin in The Bronx:

The reason for your tears are simple. When you have an orgasm, your brain releases a hormone called oxytocin, or should I say oxytoxin which can unleash an intense rush of feelings.

You know different women feel different things or maybe he is not that in to YOU.

Nooo just kidding, when you have an orgasm your brain releases a hormone

called oxytocin which can cause different women to experience different things.

Some women experience a sense of calm, a glowing feeling or a deep closeness to their partner and for women, who are more sensitive to hormones, this welling of emotions can take the form of tears.

It's not contradictory to feel happy and also have the impulse to cry. Crying is a natural release for us. It is logical for the euphoria of an orgasm to make us teary eyed and feeling simply Divine Devilish!!

--Always Divine Diva.

Consider myself a relatively 'normal' female

Dear Divine Diva:

I consider myself a relatively 'normal' female. Although I'm a little reserved, I can usually open up to new people. But I have one problem I'm afraid will cripple my chances in dating -- talking on the phone. My mind goes completely blank, and those terrible, awkward silences slowly stretch.

In person, I can read expressions, and it's easier for me to communicate. But in this day and age we exchange phone numbers first, and then -- maybe - - date. However, before we even have a chance to sit face-to-face, I'm discounted. Please help me. Is there any way I can be

a better conversationalist on the phone so I don't wind up all alone

-- Phone-Phobic In New York

Dear Phone-Phobic:

Not everyone is comfortable making small talk on the phone. Instead of trying to fill up the "empty space" with prattle, why not be up front about it? When someone you have given your phone number to calls, talk for a few minutes, then say: "You know, I hate talking on the phone. Let's meet for a cup of coffee." That way you can put your best foot forward and show your attributes to greater advantage.

Sick and tired of being polite

Dear Divine Diva:

How old do I have to be before I can begin telling my relatives exactly what I think of them? I am sick and tired of being polite to these low-lives! I want to give them a piece of my mind before I leave this Earth. I am presently 65 years

old. -- Biting Tongue In South Carolina.

Dear Biting Your Tongue:

I don't know how old your relatives are, but if they're older than you are, you had better hurry.

Send questions and comments:

ranagreendibba@yahoo.com or visit: www.divinedivafeatures.com

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LEISURE

ROARING TWENTIES

In the grid below, twenty words can be found that fit the category for today. Circle each word that you find and list it in the space provided at the right of the grid. Words can be found in all directions— forwards, backwards, horizontally, vertically and diagonally. An example is given to get you started. Can you find today's 20 words?

Today's Category: Measurements of Time, Length, Area & Volume

E	D	R	E	T	E	M	C	U	H	W	M
R	C	D	R	D	M	T	O	O	F	E	X
C	C	A	G	P	I	D	D	O	G	E	C
A	U	E	I	G	L	B	R	G	S	K	G
Q	S	N	N	H	E	T	R	A	E	Y	H
F	T	I	S	T	N	S	G	X	C	S	M
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IF YOU ADD UP ALL THE NUMBERS IN TRIANGLES, WHAT WOULD THE TOTAL BE?



WHAT CAN YOU DRAW USING THESE LINES AND SHAPES?



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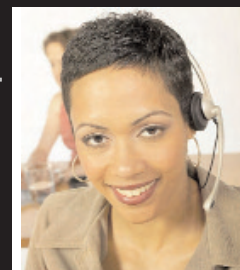


Solution on page 17

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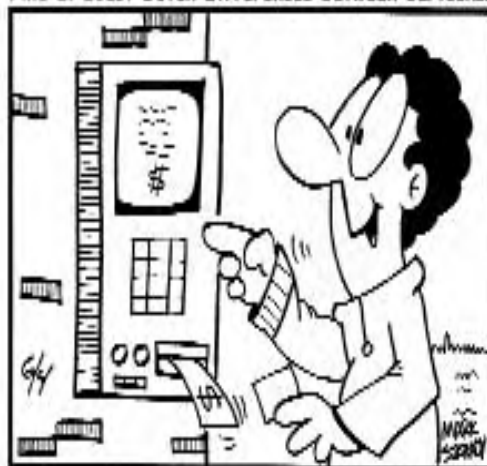
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DOUBLE TAKE

By Mark Szorady



Find at Least Seven Differences Between Cartoons!



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HEALTH AND NUTRITION

March 20 Marks National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

ALBANY, N.Y. - The third annual observance of National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is Friday, March 20, a time to bring attention to the serious toll the epidemic has taken on Native communities. HIV/AIDS is a critical and continuing health issue among Native Americans in New York and across the nation.

Even though the numbers of HIV and AIDS diagnoses for Native Americans are small, when population size is taken into account, Native Americans had the third-highest rate of HIV/AIDS after blacks and Hispanics/Latinos in New York from 2005-2007. Nationally, there are nearly 2,300 Native Americans living with the disease. Of these, approximately 140 are Native Americans in New York. According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the

leading risk factor for HIV nationally for Native Americans and Alaska Natives is male-to-male sexual contact for men and heterosexual contact for women.

"HIV/AIDS remains a serious health threat to the Native American community," said State Health Commissioner Richard F. Daines, M.D. "That's why it is critically important that prevention programs be tailored to the specific needs of this population. The Department remains strongly committed to addressing this challenge."

Each year, the state Department of Health (DOH) provides more than \$700,000 to Native organizations for HIV testing, prevention and supportive services in their communities. Programs are designed to reflect the cultures, beliefs and practices of the people to be reached, and many include intergenerational compo-

nents where elders are involved with the education of the young.

"It's important to remember that cultural and historical factors need to be considered if we want to be successful in our work to prevent and treat HIV infections in these communities," said Humberto Cruz, Director of DOH's AIDS Institute.

According to U.S. census estimates, there are more than 90,000 American Indian and Alaska Native persons living in New York. While most all live in or near sovereign nations, territories, reservations and villages, approximately 11 percent are located in urban or suburban areas.

Those who live in rural areas may be less likely to be tested for HIV because their access to testing is limited, and because of concerns about confidentiality in close-knit communities.

Health Tips & Benefits - Hypertension Causes, Symptoms

Hypertension is the medical name for high blood pressure. The simple fact is high blood pressure, or hypertension, is a killer and needs to be treated as such.

Hypertension, or elevated blood pressure, indicates that the heart is working harder than normal, putting both the heart and the arteries under a greater strain. This may contribute to heart attacks, strokes, kidney failure and atherosclerosis.

If high blood pressure isn't treated, the heart may have to work progressively harder to pump enough blood and oxygen to the body's organs and tissues to meet their needs.

Hypertension Causes :-

High blood pressure can be caused by certain events in a person's life.

True hypertension exists only when a person has high blood pressure readings on a number of different occasions.

Hypertension can also be caused by a variety of medical conditions.

Other conditions that can cause hypertension include blood vessel diseases, disorders of the thyroid or other glands, alcoholism (see alcoholism entry), pregnancy, and the use of certain prescription drugs.

Hypertension Symptoms :-

Hypertension is a major health problem, especially because it has no symptoms. Many people have hypertension without knowing it.

But there are common symptoms are,

- (1) Feeling Tired
- (2) Blurred Vision
- (3) Nosebleed
- (4) Confused
- (5) Heartbeat Irregular
- (6) Blood in Urine

To reduce our hypertension and have a healthier life it is important that you make some changes such as diet and exercise.

When we eat healthier less fatty foods, naturally our blood pressure rate will be lower.



Consulate General of Jamaica, New York presents Meet the Minister's Tour



Senator Dr. the Hon. Ronald Robinson, Jamaican Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade - April 17-26, 2009

NEW YORK

Friday, April 17 (Brooklyn)

6:30 p.m. Town Hall Meeting; Medgar Evers College, 1650 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11225. Host: Consulate General; co-host: Jamaican Diaspora Board, NE.

Saturday, April 18 (Bronx)

6:30 pm - Community Forum at North Bronx Seventh Day Adventist Church, 3743 Bronxwood Avenue; Host: Street Hype/Proud Jamaican; co-host: Dr Russell, pastor; 914-663-4973

Sunday, April 19 (Bronx)

11:00 a.m. Church Service - St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 777 E 222nd Street; 718-882-3060.

Monday, April 20 (Manhattan)

9:00 a.m. Breakfast with New York City Council members. Host: Councilman Leroy Comrie. (Invitation only)

12:00 noon- Lunch and business meeting at Consulate General offices, Host: Proud Jamaicans, 914-663-4973. (Invitation only)

7:00 p.m. Caribbean Press & Corporate Reception; Host: Consulate General; Cohost: Jamaican Diaspora Board (Invitation only)

Tuesday, April 21 (Manhattan)

11:00 a.m. Meeting with Jamaican Diaspora Broads. (Private Meeting)

7:00 p.m. Meeting with Youth Leaders at Consulate General offices; Co-hosts: JAMPACT, Caribbean Students Associations for Columbia and City College.

NEW JERSEY

Wednesday, April 22

12:00 noon Luncheon with New Jersey Department of Economic Development. (Invitation only)

5:00 p.m. Dinner with Jamaican community leaders. Host: Jamaican Organization of New Jersey.

7:00p.m. Town Hall Meeting- Host: Consulate General of Jamaica; Co-Host: Jamaican Organization of New Jersey

CONNECTICUT

Thursday, April 23 (HARTFORD)

7:00 p.m. Town Hall Meeting. Host: Caribbean Trade Council; Co-host: West Indian Social Club of Hartford. 860-904-7016

PENNSYLVANIA

Friday, April 24 (Philadelphia)

7:00 p.m. Town Hall Meeting. Host: Jamaica Diaspora Advisory Board; 215-313-9508

Saturday, April 25 (Philadelphia)

12:00 Noon - Minister visits Penn Relays



For further information contact: Consulate General of Jamaica, New York -- 212- 935-9000 ex 20; 21; 23

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Annual Woman Of Great Esteem Awards Arrives March 28th At Brooklyn's Palm House

BROOKLYN, N.Y.

The distinguished Woman of Great Esteem (WGE) Organization will host its Fourteenth Annual Awards Dinner and Gala on Saturday, March 28 at 7:00 p.m. at the elegant Palm House on the grounds of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, located at 1000 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

The evening themed "An Emerald Night in Brooklyn" honors six powerful women, among them: Humanitarian and Community Activist, Nelia Robinson-Hazell who hails from St. Vincent & The Grenadines; Political Leader, Dr. Gracita R. Arrindell from St. Maarten, N.A.; Entrepreneur, Jane Ip from Hong Kong; Medical Doctor and Educator, Dr. Rosemarie Wright-Pascoe from Jamaica; Attorney & Managing Partner of Davidson & Grannum, Sandra Grannum, Esq., also from Jamaica and Posthumous Awardee, Congresswoman, Stephanie Tubbs-Jones from the United States.

Each year the Woman of Great Esteem Emerald Award Organization recognizes the contributions of women who have excelled beyond normal expectations in society; more specifically, the institution honors women worldwide for their extraordinary contributions to the



Dr. Garcita Arindelle,
Political Leader; St. Marteen, N.A.

advancement of world peace. According to WGE founder, the Rt. Rev. Sylvesta Hamilton-Gonzales, "the Emerald Award honors these women who are precious like the emerald." It's a medium that empowers its recipients to ascend to their next level on the ladder of accomplishments and world recognition.

Celia Zuckerman, President and CEO of New York Congregational Nursing Center and a 2007 Woman of Great



Jane Ip, Entrepreneur, Designer
Handbags; Hong Kong

Esteem recipient will be the evening's Keynote Speaker. Sharon Gordon will host this year's ceremony. The red carpet affair will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. with a soiree and served appetizers, followed by the award ceremony and dinner at 8:00 pm. Live music by the dynamic Vision Band and dancing until midnight. 2009 marks the fourth year since the "The Emerald Awards" migrated to Brooklyn, from its stay at midtown Manhattan's United Nations Millennium Hotel.



Dr. Rosemarie Wright Pascoe,
President,
Medical Association of Jamaica

Sponsors include, Citibank, Bermuda Department of Tourism, The New York Congregational Nursing Center and Caribbean Food Delights.

For further information on the 2009 Woman of Great Esteem Emerald Awards at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden Palm House on Saturday, March 28 please call 718.221.5566 or email qkmacademy@aol.com <mailto:qkmacademy@aol.com> .

Scarborough announces package of bills designed to help small businesses

Assemblyman William Scarborough announced the Assembly passed a package of bills designed to help small businesses thrive in New York State while making it easier for women and minorities to own businesses.

"Small businesses are the backbone of the state's economy - they're at the heart of innovation and new technology, and they play a vital role in keeping our state running. In these daunting economic times, it's critical that we make it easier for small business to grow and prosper, that we give them all the help we can in order to preserve and create jobs and get our economy back on track," Scarborough said. "The success of small businesses is absolutely vital to the success and vibrancy of New York's communities."

According to federal census data, small businesses are the source of up to 80 per cent of all new jobs in the U.S.

"With these measures, the Assembly has taken steps to ensure resources are available to help get new businesses off the ground and to help existing companies grow," Scarborough said. "Without their success, we won't be able to replace the jobs we've lost during this downturn."

The Assembly's legislation makes it easier for small businesses to receive loans

through the Small Business Regional Revolving Loan Program (A.3384).

It establishes a competitive grant program for small businesses to seek new markets and niche products and work with small manufacturers to identify and develop these markets and products (A.4550). It provides zero or low-interest loans for

energy efficiency projects, further allowing small businesses to grow and create new jobs (A.3945).

It creates the micro-business outreach center and program to provide small businesses access to economic development funds and advice (A.3193).



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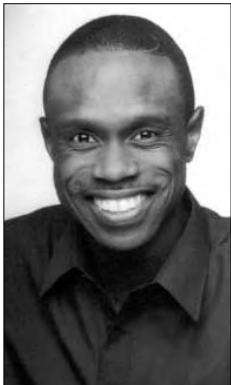
LIFESTYLE



Executive producer and co-host of Fat Forward WBRadio (3rd l) poses Norka Blackman founder of For Real Women International Inc (FWI) following a recent interview at WVIP FM 93.5. Also, in photo Brenda Jordon, public relation/marketing executive of FWI (1st l) and Joan Rosegreen, co-host WBRadio 93.5FM (2nd l)

No Nation Can Rise Higher Than It's Women

Popular radio talk show host King Simon (aka Simon Templar) of Flava 107-9 FM will recognize the strength and honor the contribution of women to society and the building of nations on Sunday, March 29, at the Honorable Marcus Garvey Holistic Center 5105 Church Avenue and East 51st Street, Brooklyn, NY from 4:00 to 8:00 PM. Minister and educator Mary McCloud Bethune, founder of the Methodist Bethune-Cookmen College in Florida is one of the strongest examples of overcoming great odds through courage, persistence, and determination to achieve the highest goals a woman can set for herself. "Women who enjoy the freedom of pursuing an education, career or non-traditional job choices make incredible contributions to society, both economically and culturally," says Simon. "In many countries around the world, women are treated with less regard then love stock." Oppression of women in all forms slows the elevation of human race. No Nation Can Rise Higher Than It's Women, will address issues of oppression,



aggression and changing social trends to uplift women and society. Presentations will be made by Abundance Child from the Aboriginal Law firm in Delaware, RaHS Bey, publisher, NJ, Seasia, motivational speaker of the organization, NJ, Pri the HoneyDark, artist and music producer, Karlene Sabiyrah Gordon from the Caribbean American Society of Empowerment (CASE) and Ginger Davis, family health advocate and businesswoman will offer practical, inspirational words about setting achievable goals. "These women are modern day examples of success as mothers, advocates, artists, philanthropists and community leaders.



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SLEDGE - the reggae rising star to watch

SLEDGE, out of Kingston Jamaica and Hartford Connecticut has been making inroads into the music industry for some time now, Singing from the tender age of five in churches and schools, Sledge has been impressing fans whenever he hits the stage. Named Courtney Whyte by his parents, he aquired the name Sledge from a popular TV series called Sledge Hammer while performing in Kingston, Jamaica. WI. Sledge went on to be the lead vocalist for several bands including Power Play Band, Earth Ruler and The Kosmic Krew Band. Now a solo artiste Sledge has shared the stage with some of the reggae greats including Third World, Sanchez, Berris Hammond, Lust, Taurus Riley, Beenie Man and Mikey Spice. Working out of Hartford Connecticut Sledge is doing good for himself with the recent release of his debut album entitled "After The Storm." The ten tract CD is getting great reviews and airplays on local Caribbean stations and in Jamaica. The CD is also avaiable on Itunes, Amazon and several other websites. It is being distributed by VP records. Sledge is keeping busy performing




SLEDGE

at clubs and stage shows in Connecticut and NY City. Look out Sledge is hammering at the door.



WEEKLY PROGRAM SCHEDULE ON CHANNELS 73 & 25

SUNDAY CH. 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none">1:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m. - Irie Vibes2:00 a.m. - 3:00 a.m. - Irie Vibes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">12:00 a.m. - CIN Hot Music Videos
SUNDAY CH. 73 <ul style="list-style-type: none">9:00 a.m. - Jamaica Today9:30 a.m. - Synergy Top Ten11:30 a.m. - Caribbean Lifestyle Magazine12:30 p.m. - New York Linkz1:00 p.m. - Video Alley/Reggae Top Ten (repeat)	TUESDAY CH. 73 <ul style="list-style-type: none">11:30 p.m. - Comedy Corner12:00-1:00 a.m. - Caribbean Lifestyle (repeat)
SUNDAY CH. 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none">2:00 p.m. - Cover Story (Jamaica News)2:30 p.m. - Trinidad News In Review3:00 p.m. - Hill & Gully Ride	WEDNESDAY CH. 73 <ul style="list-style-type: none">11:30 p.m. - Jamaica Today (repeat)12:00 a.m. - Irie Vibes part #1 (repeat)1:00-2:00 a.m. - Synergy Top Ten (repeat)
SUNDAY CH. 73 <ul style="list-style-type: none">5:30 p.m. - Hill & Gully Ride6:00 p.m. - Trinidad News In Review (repeat)6:30 p.m. - Cover Story (Jamaica News)7:00 p.m. - Sports Roundup7:30 p.m. - Whatz Up, New York11:00 p.m. - Saints & Sinners11:30 p.m. - One Love	THURSDAY CH. 73 <ul style="list-style-type: none">11:30 p.m. - One Love (repeat)12:00 a.m. - Pete's Pick (repeat)1:00 a.m. - Irie Vibes Part #2 (repeat)
MONDAY CH. 73 <ul style="list-style-type: none">11:30 p.m. - Hill & Gully Ride	FRIDAY CH. 73 <ul style="list-style-type: none">11:00-1:00 a.m. - Irie Vibes1:00-2:00 a.m. - Synergy/Trinidad Top Ten
	SATURDAY CH. 73 <ul style="list-style-type: none">11:00 p.m. - Video Alley/Reggae Top Ten12:00 a.m. - CIN Hot Music Videos1:00-2:00a.m. - Pete's Pick



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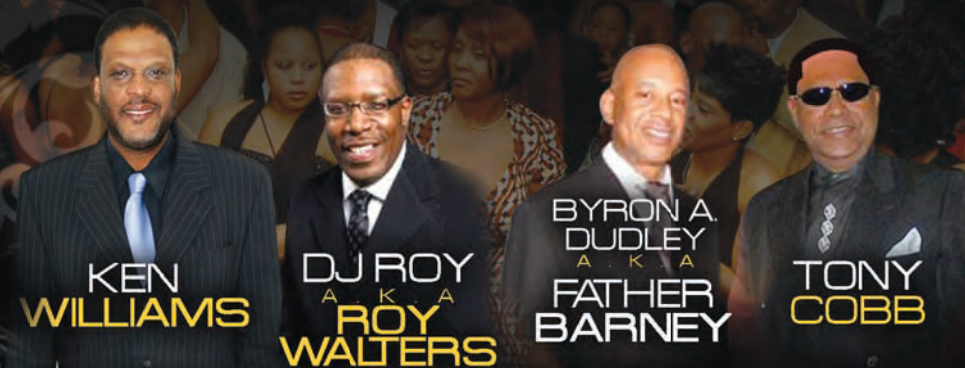
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